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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Wallace DATE TYPED: 1/29/03 HB HJM 6

SHORT TITLE: Support Fuel Cell Research SB _____

ANALYST: Collard

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
		See Narrative			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From
 Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
 Economic Development Department

Responses Not Received From
 Department of Environment

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 6 states the Secretary of Economic Development be requested to appear before appropriate 2003 legislative interim committees for the purpose of reporting on the Economic Development Department's plan for hydrogen and fuel cell research and development in New Mexico and any suggested legislation.

Significant Issues

The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department indicates the emerging "hydrogen economy" offers significant economic development potential for New Mexico. New Mexico is ideally situated to be a leader in these technologies, given Los Alamos National Laboratory's strong historic and ongoing research in hydrogen and fuel cell research and development and the state's abundance of both fossil fuel and renewable energy resources.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no appropriation or significant fiscal impact associated with this joint memorial.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department indicates that assistance and involvement with the joint memorial and the Economic Development Department can be handled with existing personnel.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Economic Development Department notes that this joint memorial requires the department to prepare a strategic description of the plan for hydrogen and fuel cell research and development.

The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department believes this memorial will complement the Energy Conservation and Management Division's alternative fuels mission and indicates that the promotion of hydrogen development will enhance the potential applications for using renewable energy. The department is currently involved with the multi-agency "Hydrogen Technology Partnership" investigating the creation of a hydrogen and fuel cell economic development industry cluster for New Mexico.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

1. What efforts can the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources department bring to this joint memorial?
2. What has the Hydrogen Technology Partnership accomplished?

KBC/njw